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DATE: Aug. 2, 2004

ATTENTION:

COMPANY: PTO

FACSIMILE NO.: 703-872-9306

FROM: Brian S. Tomko

TELEPHONE NO.: (732) 524-1239

FACIMILE NO.: (732)-524-5575

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET: 7

COMMENTS: Re: USSN 10/790,540  
Our Ref.: HRT0256C2

Contents:

Information Disclosure Statement/Form 1449 – 6 pages

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Docket No. HRT-0256C2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : H. S. Gifford III et al.

Serial No. : 10/790,540

Art Unit:

Filed : March 1, 2004

Examiner:

For : Devices and Methods for Performing a Vascular  
Anastomosis

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted  
to the Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on

August 3, 2004  
(Date of Deposit)

Brian S. Tomko  
(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

  
(Signature)

August 3, 2004  
(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this

information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

☒ In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application (other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d)), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in §1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional fee is required.

☐ In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with ☐ the first or ☐ second After Final Submission, therefore:

☐ Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached); or

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution and that it is accompanied by one of:

- ☐ Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached); or
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with §1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311 but before the payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Included are: Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) as set forth below and the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

☐ Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith EXCEPT THAT:

- ☐ In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith.
- ☐ Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. 09/915,909, filed January 8, 2001, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,491,704.
- ☐ If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.

☒ There are no listed references which are not in the English language.


☐ The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:

☐ Attached are copies of search report(s) from corresponding patent application(s), which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

☐ Attached are the following non-published pending patent applications which may be deemed relevant, which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/HRT-0256C2/BST. This form is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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DATED: August 2, 2004

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

<b>Application Number</b>	10/790,540
<b>Filing Date</b>	3/1/04
<b>First Named Inventor</b>	H. S. Gifford III
<b>Group Art Unit</b>	
<b>Examiner Name</b>	
<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	HRT0256C2

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		4,503,589		Dotter	3/12/85	
		4,592,784		Gupke et al.	5/3/86	
		4,617,932		Komberg	10/21/86	
		5,002,663		Pyka et al.	3/26/91	
		5,104,399		Lazarus	4/14/92	
		5,122,156		Granger et al.	1/16/92	
		5,207,695		Trout III	5/4/93	
		5,211,658		Clouse	5/18/93	
		5,211,683		Maginot	5/18/93	
		5,254,130		Poncet et al.	10/19/93	
		5,275,622		Lazarus et al.	1/4/94	
		5,304,220		Maginot	4/19/94	
		5,316,023		Palmaz et al.	5/31/94	
		5,486,183		Middleman et al.	1/23/96	
		5,387,235		Chuter	2/7/95	
		5,397,345		Lazarus	3/14/95	
		5,397,355		Marin et al.	3/14/95	
		5,443,497		Venbrux	8/22/95	
		5,452,733		Sterman et al.	9/26/95	
		5,456,712		Maginot	10/10/95	
		5,601,672		Middleman et al.	2/11/97	
		5,695,504		St. Goar et al.	12/9/97	
		5,755,778		Kleshinski	5/29/98	
		5,769,870		Salahieh et al.	6/23/98	
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		5,820,628		Middleman et al.	10/13/98	
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		5,881,943		Heck et al.	3/16/99	
		5,972,017		Berg et al.	10/26/99	
		5,976,159		Bolduc et al.	11/21/99	

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	5,976,178	Goldsteen et al.	11/2/99
	6,036,702	Bachinski	3/14/00
	6,074,416	Berg et al.	6/13/00
	6,451,048	Berg et al.	9/17/02
	6,481,320	Yencho et al.	10/8/02
	6,485,498	Suyker et al.	11/28/02
	6,120,432	Sullivan et al.	9/19/00
	6,208,912	Goldsteen et al.	3/27/01
	6,302,905	Goldsteen et al.	10/18/01
	6,330,865	Millman	12/18/01
	6,702,829	Bachinski et al.	3/9/04

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T <sup>2</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	KindCode <sup>5</sup>				
Examiner Signature					Date Considered			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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